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California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

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Gray Davis
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Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board Minutes of the October 12, 2000 Regular Board Meeting City of Camarillo, 601 Carmen Drive, Camarillo, CA

INTRODUCTION

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nahai at 9:07 a.m.

Board Members Present

Susan Cloke, Francine Diamond, Marilyn Lyon, Robert Miller, Timothy Shaheen, H. David Nahai

Board Members Absent

Jack Coe

Staff Present

Dennis Dickerson, Jorge Leon, Dennis Dasker, Deborah Smith, Ronji Harris, Laura Gallardo, Wendy Phillips, Arthur Heath, Dixon Oriola, Hugh Marley, Jack Price, Jonathan Bishop, Mark Pumford, Gary Schultz, David Bacharowski, Blythe Ponek-Bacharowski, Tony Rizk, Tracy Patterson, Sam Unger, Dan Radelescu,

Others Present

Mark Gold, Heal the Bay
Wil Wilson, City of Glendale
Arnold Marsden, Equilon Pipeline Company
Greg Coppola, Geomatrix Consultants
Sam McIntyre, Berlywood Mutual Water Co.
Ann Demartini, Zone MWC
Jacqueline Lambrichts, Friends of the
San Gabriel River
Jane M. Bray, Consulting
Dan Pfeifer, City of Ventura
Sharon Rubalcava, Weston Benshoof

Jim Colbaugh, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Mel Blevins, ULARA Watermaster
Tom Jackson, Equilon Pipeline Company
Jacqy Gamble, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Jill Jefferson, Kinder Morgan Energy Partners
Buck Worgo, Glendale News Press
Wayne Praskins, USEPA
Vic Peterson, City of Malibu
Jeff Helsley, Main San Gabriel Watermaster
Richard Rojas, CA Department of Parks & Recreation

1. Roll Call.

A roll call was taken.

2. Order of Agenda.



The Executive Officer, Dennis Dickerson recommended the following changes to the Agenda:

- *Item 14 (Status Report on Hexavalent Chromium Investigation in San Fernando Valley) be the first matter to be heard following the public comments.*
- *Remove Item 7.1 (Port of Los Angeles – Berths 167-169) will be heard at a future meeting.*
- *Remove Item 7.2 (Port of Los Angeles – Berths 212-215) will be heard at a future meeting.*
- *Remove Item 7.3 (Chateau De Ville), will be heard at a future meeting.*

The Board members recommended the following items removed from the consent calendar:

Items 8.3, 8.4, 8.5

MOTION: By Mr. Lyon, seconded by Ms. Cloke, and approved on a voice vote.

3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2000.

MOTION: By Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Diamond, and approved on a voice vote.

4. Board Member ExParte Communication Disclosure.

There were no disclosures reported.

5. Public Forum.

Jim Colbaugh, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, briefed the Board on the Malibu Creek Avoidance Study. He stated that LVMWD is applying for grants from Proposition 13 money for assistance.

Susan Cloke requested that staff work with LVMWD with this request.

7. *The Consent Calendar was adopted as follows:*

Items 7.4, 8.2, 8.4, 12

INFORMATION

14. Status Report on Hexavalent Chromium Investigation in San Fernando Valley

Dennis Dickerson gave the report to the Board. He informed the Board of the various forms that chromium exists, and that chromium 6 is widespread in San Fernando Valley. He also stated that there are several significant sites that have been under Regional Board oversight for chromium for quite some time. Mr. Dickerson also briefed the Board on the San Fernando basin. Giving a brief chronology of chromium events, Mr. Dickerson stated that there is an ongoing USEPA and Regional Board San Fernando Valley investigation, and Board staff is involved in managing the investigation in phases. He informed the Board that a

Senate hearing is set for October 24, 2000 to explore chromium issues, and the Los Angeles Regional Board will be attending the hearing.

Will Wilson, City of Glendale, talked about his experience with chromium issues and stated that the City of Glendale is currently involved in the Chromium Task Force. He also informed the Board that when Chrome III is in chloride, it breaks into Chromium 6.

Mel Blevins, San Gabriel Basin Watermaster talked about his role in investigating chromium sites and overseeing water issues. He informed the Board that chromium was first discovered in SF Valley in 1986.

Chairman Nahai asked Mr. Blevins his opinion on various issues pertaining to chromium, and the history of chromium in the San Fernando Valley and other areas.

Ms. Cloke asked about the cleanup of chromium and what is involved in the process.

Dixon Oriola, Board staff replied to Ms. Cloke's question, and several other questions asked by the Board.

Chairman Nahai stated that the Board support a Special Meeting devoted to the Chromium issues. He suggested that several agencies get involved to help find solutions to these and other water quality issues.

The Board made a motion to support a meeting devoted to the issue of discovery of chromium with the jurisdiction of the Regional Board on November 13, 2000.

MOTION: By Chairman Nahai, seconded by Ms. Diamond, and approved on a voice vote.

8.4 SFPP, LP (Norwalk Pump Station), Norwalk

The Chair made a statement about the reason cited in the staff report for the recommended changes regarding TDS, sulfate, and chloride. Jorge Leon recommended that the hearing be opened so that his statement and the Board's decision be fully reported."

Mark Pumford gave the staff presentation. Staff recommendation is that the Board adopt the proposed revised permit, with changes.

Others who made spoke on this matter:

Jill Jefferson, SFPP, L.P.

Greg Coppola, Geomatrix Consultants

After some discussion by the Board, there was a motion to adopt the revised permit with the following changes:

- *Add language that says, "At the June 29, 2000 Hearing, Board staff did not adequately explain the rationale for the removal of the effluent limits for TDS, sulfate, and chloride, which consisted of the following reasons:*

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- *Number 6, following the words receiving water (Coyote Creek), add the phrase "and there can be no negative effect from the discharge of TDS, sulfate, and chloride into Coyote Creek due to the nature of the brackish receiving water.*

MOTION: By Ms. Diamond, seconded by Ms. Lyon, and approved on a voice vote.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:20 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:45 p.m.

9. Consideration of a tentative NPDES Permit renewal and a Time Schedule Order for the City of San Buenaventura (Ventura Water Reclamation Facility).

Mark Pumford gave the staff presentation. He briefed the Board on the sites compliance history, the history of the existing permit, and the phase 1, 2 and 3 findings. He stated that staff is aware that the discharger cannot meet the limits in the permit at this time, and that the WDR will be brought back before the Board at a later date. Staff recommendation is the adoption of the tentative NPDES Permit and the proposed Time Schedule Order.

Richard Rojas, California Department of Park and Recreation stated that he supports the staff recommendation for the renewal of the permit.

Mark Gold, Heal the Bay made an apology to the Board for the delayed comments that were sent regarding this matter. He recommended a change be made to page T-10. He stated that toxicity violation is a violation to the permit, but isn't clearly stated in the permit.

Mark Pumford responded to the issue of nutrient monitoring. He stated that he thought it was appropriate to bring in the monitoring nutrients at a later date.

After much discussion by the Board, there was a motion to adopt the tentative NPDES Permit and the proposed Time Schedule Order with changes as follows:

- Form a workgroup, and come back to the Board with better language for chronic toxicity evaluation.*
- Monitor nutrients in receiving waters such as ammonia, phosphate and nitrates, on a monthly basis.*
- Add a clause that states "The Board may reopen this matter at its discretion or at the request of the Discharger."*

MOTION: By Chairman Nahai, seconded by Ms. Cloke, and approved on a voice vote.

10. Consideration of a Time Schedule Order Directing CENCO Refining Company.

Mark Pumford gave the staff presentation. He stated that the permit contains new, stricter stormwater limits for CENCO compliance issues. Staff recommends that the Board adopt the proposed Time Schedule Order for CENCO.

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Mr. Gold recommends that a workplan be implemented within six months for this site. He made comments on the interim limits in the permit.

Tony Rizk addressed the issues of concern by the Board.

Sharon Rubalcava, Attorney, Weston Benshoof, addressed questions asked by the Board regarding the operation of CENCO. She stated that no discharges take place until CENCO begins operation, but no certain date has been set for operation to begin.

Chairman Nahai asked if CENCO is in favor of reduced limits, and if there are alternatives to reduced limits. There was some discussion whether CENCO is willing to allow limits for a limited time, which can start when CENCO becomes operational or for six months.

After was much discussion by the Board, there was a motion to adopt the TSO with the following changes:

- *The addition of Item No. 2 (page 4) which clarifies the time frame for compliance with effluent limits of NPDES No. CA0057177 (Order No. 00-068)*
- *The deletion of submittal of monthly reports and the provision for report submittal on a quarterly basis has been deleted*
- *The addition of an expiration date which will expire six months after restart of the facility refining operations*
- *The adopted Order also from the tentative TSO as sent to discharger by some minor narrative changes, and changes in the order of the Findings. In addition, the following language on Item 1, page 4 of the tentative TSO to be deleted: "(as storage and hydraulic capacity and as CSDLAC will allow)". This is to reflect the changes to the Order as reviewed and adopted by this Regional Board.*

MOTION: By Chairman Nahai, seconded by Ms. Cloke, and approved on a voice vote.

13. Status Report on Groundwater Efforts in San Gabriel Valley.

Arthur Heath briefed the Board on the groundwater efforts in the San Gabriel Valley. His overview was based on the efforts in the Baldwin Park Operable Unit. He stated that there are forty one drinking wells impacted and the estimated cost factor is \$200 million.

Jeff Helsley, Main San Gabriel Valley Watermaster stated that he supports the efforts of the Board with respect to the Cleanup and Abatement Orders, and he is involved with the negotiations to implement a workplan.

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15. Executive Officer's Report.

Dennis Dickerson, Executive Officer, briefed the Board on the Stormwater Issues Forum and the Stormwater Report written by Wendy Phillips, Chief of L.A. Regional Board's Stormwater Section.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Minutes adopted at the _____ Regular Board
Meeting submitted/amended.

Written and submitted by: _____.